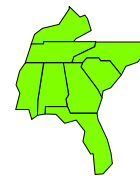




ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR



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First Edition

The Defense Environmental Program: The Who, the What, and Most of All, the Why

By John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of Defense (Environment)

The United States is again at war. The Pentagon itself has been struck by our enemies, and from the ground, the sea, and the sky, American fighting men and women are destroying the principal havens of world terrorism.

All of us who work in the Nation's defense approach our jobs today with a new sense of purpose and determination. A long and difficult course lies before us. We know that only by preservation and enhancement of the well-springs of our national power, shrewd management of the limited resources committed to our care for purposes of national defense, and a high sense of duty, honor and ethical commitment, can we bring home victory in this global conflict.

We are asking ourselves if what we do, day to day, is relevant to this struggle.

So, I appreciate this invitation from the Society of Military Engineers to write about the Defense Environmental Program: the who, the what, but most of all, the why.

I expect that many readers of *The Military Engineer* are already aware that Secretary Rumsfeld has reorganized the Office of the Secretary of Defense to combine Installations and Environment under Deputy Undersecretary Raymond F. DuBois, Jr. Mr. DuBois is a veteran of Army service in Vietnam, and has prior service in the secretariat of both the Army and DoD. After a distinguished career in business, Mr. DuBois was recruited to rejoin the DoD secretariat by Secretary Rumsfeld in early 2001.

The new Principal Assistant Undersecretary of Defense (Installations and Environment) is Phil Grone of Ohio. Mr. Grone joins DoD after serving as deputy staff director to the House Armed Services Committee, where he was also staff director to the subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities.

I am the third member of the DoD Installations and Environment team. In my work as Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia, I had many opportunities to see first hand the great things DoD does in both environmental protection and restoration.

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“A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE”

Last night I watched a story on Nightline about two courageous families — the families of two survivors of the Pentagon terrorists' attacks. One of the survivors is LTC Brian Birdwell — someone many of you know through the base closure actions occurring at Ft McClellan. Brian has always been a great role model — a very dedicated, caring, energetic, positive person. He is a person with a real passion for people, for the Army, and for his Kansas City Chiefs. Today, he represents those traits and even more.

Brian had been called up to become the Executive Officer of MG Van Antwerp, the top uniformed military in the Army for the environmental program and the keynote speaker at our summer conference last year. It was easy to see why Brian was selected. He was so effective in working with all types of people to get things done...and not easily discouraged. However, when the terrorist's attacks took place, Brian was severely burned. Brian is making a courageous, miraculous recovery, but the Nightline story was a grim reminder of the suffering that will exist for years to come. However, it was also an inspiring story of hope, of love, and of priorities. Brian, his wife, and his 12-year old son are an amazing family — a family full of faith and life.

Most of you will probably recall right after the terrorist's attacks, a notable difference was how nice people were to each other. Drivers who normally worked themselves into a rage at intersections, would gladly give way to one, two, or even three cars. In those very troubling times, people were

very in tune with the feelings of others, and there was such a strong sense of togetherness. It was one of the few good things that came from these evil deeds. Unfortunately, the past few months have been a particularly tumultuous time for DOD. In fact, there are many, many “white collar” battles now being fought over various environmental issues with potentially serious consequences, threatening organizational relationships. Whether the issue is the DSMOA budget, clean-up authorities, land use controls, the range rule, or some other

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SUBMISSIONS

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**Southern Regional Environmental Office
U. S. Army Environmental Center
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3120
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Our new structure is flatter and leaner, and provides us with better alignment with the Services and opportunities to work more closely with installations planners and programmers.

Together we have started to grapple with many of the issues which have been at the forefront of DoD environmental management for several years.

First among these issues is the relationship our environmental program maintains with other federal environmental and land management agencies, the States, the Tribes, and the public. In Virginia, I emphasized close relations with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which worked to the credit of both the State and Federal agencies. I've already started, and will continue, to reach out to other Federal Government offices and agencies, to the States, the Tribes and the public.

I met in November with EPA Associate Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response Marianne L. Horinko, to renew a commitment of cooperation to achieve our mutual goals. We are also working to reinvigorate the Interagency Military Lands Coordination Committee to better focus our mutual interests with the Departments of Interior and Agriculture.

I intend to work closely with Alaska Environment Commissioner Michelle Brown, with whom I co-chair a committee of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) focused on DoD and State government relations. Nor will we neglect Native American Tribes and private groups with a strong interest in DoD environmental programs. Together we will forge a partnership, to ensure our successful environmental stewardship and sustain the defense of the Nation.

The primary tool I intend to focus my energy on – to better institutionalize our achievements over the long haul – is environmental management systems (EMS). I believe EMS will enhance our mission performance, protect and preserve our natural resources, sustain public support, and reduce program costs to the Department in the long run. EMS is, to use some DoD jargon, a mission-enabler and a force multiplier.

By applying systematic processes and risk identification, we can integrate management of mission-driven environmental issues with overall mission management. We will do this by establishing mission-oriented environmental goals and objectives. With a top to bottom implementation strategy, we will institutionalize performance accountability. Our goal will no longer be base-line compliance with permitting requirements. Our goal will be continual improvement in reducing our negative impacts upon the natural world. Improving our environmental performance will help sustain operations and also reduce the total ownership cost of facilities and equipment.

A comprehensive EMS program will also help DoD to meet our number one environmental challenge—sustainability of the national defense training landscape. Increasingly over the past decade, the land, sea, air, space, and frequency encroachment on DoD's test and training ranges has grown into a significant impediment to mission accomplishment.

Compliance with new environmental laws and regulations, competition for airspace and radio frequency spectrum, along with substantial urban growth around previously isolated ranges have strained the Department's ability to conduct effective weapons system testing and operational training. This growing challenge – most recently illustrated with the Navy's range on Vieques and the Army's range on Cape Cod, has the highest level of attention by the Department's senior leadership.

Historically, the Department addressed these issues on a range by range basis. Now, however, the time has come to establish on a permanent basis the institutional and legal framework for the sustainability of our national defense training landscape. It is true that challenges to continued use of essential training landscape, often based on real or perceived environmental impacts, are more common than ever. However, also more common than ever are examples of creative stewardship of our training lands which allow realistic training to continue unabated.

Mr. DuBois is convinced that the goals of enlightened environmental stewardship and realistic military training are not mutually exclusive. Our task is to create the legal and policy framework for the sustainability of our military training landscape. I see three elements to this framework:

- Sound land use planning and management
- Sound legal and administrative policies
- Enlightened and flexible environmental leadership, at DoD, the military departments, and state and federal regulatory agencies.

As a first step, we are working with the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to develop a new DoD Directive on Sustainable Ranges. In the coming months we will work to define our essential needs and en-

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gage our partners in defining creative solutions to maintaining our national defense training landscape.

Finally, unexploded ordnance (UXO) is an emerging program within the Department's environmental arena. I break this issue into two clearly defined pieces: operational ranges, and everywhere else. Operational ranges, used for their intended purpose, will have unexploded ordnance on and under them.

Our primary operational range responsibility is to ensure the safety from explosives risks for our military personnel and the surrounding communities. Our second responsibility is to ensure the groundwater under our ranges is not contaminated with UXO constituents. Through the Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board we are working to provide the explosives safety policies and procedures. We are also beginning to look at the groundwater under our ranges – and determine what appropriate action may be required.

For all other areas, our Munitions Response activities focus on identifying what we have – and determining what we need to do to minimize the explosives safety and environmental health threat to the public. Munitions response includes ranges we returned to private or public use (many are called 'formerly used defense sites'). It also includes properties we are disposing of through the Base Realignment and Closure process. We also have many range areas on our installations which have been closed and are now used for different missions.

We face many challenges as we build the Munitions Response program – in many ways it is where our environmental cleanup program was twenty years ago. We have initiated a workgroup with the U.S. EPA and ECOS, and will soon add the federal land managers and the tribes to our dialogue.

We must recognize that we cannot achieve "100%" assurance of UXO removal and still maintain our natural resources – so the partnership to figure out what we can achieve is very important. Technology is another area vital to achieving program completion – or at least management of the UXO risk. Airborne sensors, digital geo-physics that can differentiate between cans and bombs, and disposal methods to ensure work safety, are all needed.

Each of these issues showcases the important work being undertaken by DoD's Environmental Program.

Nevertheless, there are doubtless some who view DoD's environmental protection and restoration efforts as at best an irrelevancy and at worst a distraction from our core mission to defend Americans and American interests at home and abroad.

Mr. DuBois, Mr. Grone, and I strongly dissent from this view, for three reasons.

First, a healthy and productive environment is a key element of national power. Without clean air, clean water, and productive land, we cannot raise and support military forces in the field. The business of our Department is to enhance in every way possible our national power in support of our national security strategy. Environmental stewardship through effective conservation of our natural and cultural resources is vital to national defense.

Second, pollution is inherently wasteful of the limited resources available to our Armed Forces. Environmental restoration is good management of the scarce resources entrusted to us by the American people. Pollution prevention, the cornerstone of the Department's Environmental Quality Program, improves processes, reduces costs, and eliminates waste. By cleaning up the past, and preventing pollution in the future, the Department recognizes its obligations to be a good steward – and a good neighbor.

Third, environmental stewardship is a reflection of the high ethical ideals of American's fighting men and women. In his masterful study of military leadership, *The Mask of Command*, John Keegan, our era's greatest military historian, wrote, "Force has a way of finding out those who lack the virtue to use it." American forces have, throughout our history, relied upon that virtue in their leaders to secure victory.

Part of that virtue in the 21st Century is a strong environmental stewardship ethic. The world's greatest military deserves a world-class environmental program.

This is the relevance of the DoD Environmental Program. This has been the life's work of many, many distinguished members of this Society, and through it they have made a powerful contribution to our Nation's defense. Thank you for the opportunity to share these thoughts, and for all your work in environmental protection and restoration.

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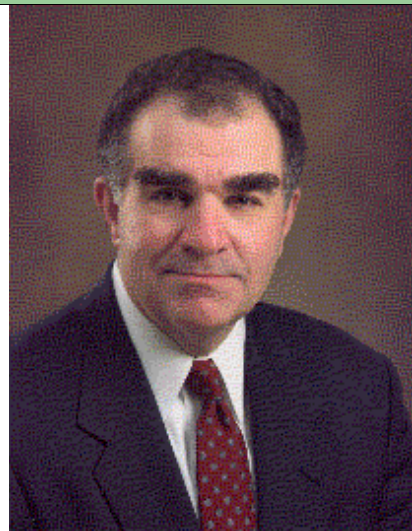
NEWS FROM THE EPA

FOR RELEASE: FRIDAY, OCT. 19, 2001 Environmental News

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christie Whitman today appointed James (Jimmy) I. Palmer, Jr., as the new regional administrator in Region 4.

"Throughout his career as a lawyer focusing on environmental issues and during his tenure in state government, Jimmy has demonstrated an exceptional knowledge of environmental law and policy that will make him a valued member of our team," said EPA Administrator Christie Whitman.

Palmer will be responsible for Agency programs in Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida. Prior to his appointment, Palmer practiced law as a member of Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens, and Canada, PLLC, where he practiced environmental, natural resources and energy law. Prior to that he served for 12 years as the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) through the administrations of two governors.



During his time at Mississippi's DEQ, Palmer was a part of various EPA efforts including the Policy Review Board and Management Committee for the Agency's Gulf of Mexico Program, the Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force and the Small Towns Task Force. Palmer also served as Executive Director in the Office of General Services, part of the Office of the Governor in Mississippi.

Palmer holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Mississippi and a Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering from Mississippi State University.

Contact: Tina Kreisher, 202-564-9828 EPA Region 4: Carl Terry, 404-562-8325

EPA PREPARES TO UNVEIL HOST OF NEW DRINKING WATER RULES IN 2002

With major contention over EPA's new arsenic standard behind EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water is expected to unleash a series of new drinking water regulations that have languished as the office was forced to devote much of its resources to arsenic in 2001. However, the arsenic rule will still likely be a major factor in the early parts of the new year, since Congress has demanded that EPA develop an arsenic affordability report and submit it to Congress by March. The report is aimed at EPA coming up with a plan that will relieve the intense economic pressure the rule is expected to bring down on small systems. The arsenic rule lowered the standard for arsenic in drinking water from the previous standard of 50 parts per billion (ppb) to 10 ppb.

The drinking water office will also continue work on two rules it began writing in late 2001 which would focus on microbial contamination in drinking water. EPA released drafts of both the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR) and the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2SWTR) in late 2001, which are currently under review by stakeholders. Final rules are expected from EPA in late 2002. The DBPR would reduce the public's exposure to disinfectants used in water supplies, and their byproducts, and reduce the risk of reproductive and developmental health effects and cancer, according to EPA officials. The LT2SWTR would help protect public water systems that do not provide filtration or that have high levels of pathogens from microbial pathogens, focusing specifically on *cryptosporidium*.

EPA also plans to move forward with its delayed multimedia rule to reduce radon in drinking water likely to include an alternative standard for states or drinking water suppliers that develop programs to combat airborne radon.

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NEWS FROM THE NAVY

NEW COMPOST AGREEMENT IS SIGNED

CBC Gulfport has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with Jackson County for transfer of Navy Composting Equipment and processing yard waste. The MOA was signed by the Acting CO of CBC on Thursday 15th November and the President of the Jackson County Board of Supervisors on Friday 16th of November. The three pieces of composting equipment were taken to Jackson County Landfill on Sunday 18th November by members of NCFC Support Unit 3, a Reserve Seabee Unit on a weekend exercise/drill.

This is a ground-breaking arrangement that allows the Navy to fulfill its Solid Waste reduction requirements and to cut costs, and provides the community with the first municipal compost facility in South Mississippi.

The MOA provided the equipment to Jackson County in exchange for in-kind transfer of service. Under the agreed terms of the MOA, CBC can take up to 170 tons per year of biodegradable waste to Jackson County landfill, with no tipping fee. In addition, we can also go and collect up to 50 tons each of mulch and finished compost per year at no cost, for use on the base. This will save the base almost \$100,000 in fiscal year 2001 in cost avoidance for disposal and for compost and mulch purchase. In this agreement, biodegradable waste consists of tree limbs, pine needles, pine cones, Christmas trees, grass clippings, yard trimmings, prunings, tree trimmings, tree stumps, straw and untreated wood waste material such as sawdust. Material must be free of animal waste, food waste, topsoil, dirt, rocks, gravel, concrete, asphalt, plastic or metal.

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EPA officials say they will also continue development of a groundwater rule proposed in May of 2000. One EPA source says the agency expects to promulgate the rule in October 2002. The proposed groundwater rule addresses the sensitivity of groundwater systems to fecal contamination and requires corrective action for sensitive systems to eliminate bacteria or viruses from the water.

It is a tribute to many of the people that have worked on this issue for over a year now, that this novel arrangement is finally culminated. During the past year, many people have been involved including personnel from CIN-CLANTFLT, NFESC and NAVFAC and in addition, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and the attorneys and Solid Waste Department employees of Jackson County. Specifically here at CBC, LT Marvin Richards, CBC JAG; Jake Jacobs, CBC Program Analyst; and Chief Jim May from NCFCSU3 Reserve Unit; and from Jackson County, Dale Hickam, Solid Waste Supervisor, and the previous Solid Waste coordinator, Jo-Ann Casey.

2001 US Army Environmental Awards

Congratulations to the Winners in Region 4

Cultural Resources Management, Installation:
US Army Infantry Center, Fort Benning, GA & AL (TRADOC)

Environmental Restoration, Installation :
Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, GA (FORSCOM)

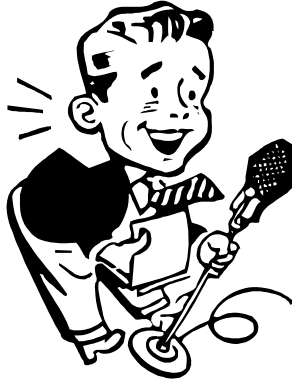
Environmental Restoration, Installation/Team:
Mr. George Gricius
US Army Forces Command Headquarters, Fort McPherson, GA (FORSCOM)

1st Runners up:

Pollution Prevention, Industrial Installation:
Camp Blanding Training Site, FL (NGB)

Environmental Excellence In Weapon System Acquisition, Team;
Engineering, Environmental and Logistics Oversight Office, Armament and Missile Command (AMCOM), AL (AMC)

REGION 4 CONFERENCE



FIRST NOTICE – 2002 Region 4 EPA – DoD – States Environmental Conference:

MARK YOUR CALANDAR

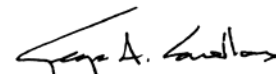
The 2002 REGION 4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE will be held **June 25 - June 27, 2002** at the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel in downtown Atlanta. This is the premier environmental conference in the region for bringing together DoD, EPA and State environmental officials and MACOM/Installation level managers and staff to discuss environmental challenges and opportunities. The program is structured around (1) Plenary sessions to provide a top-down perspective the Environmental Program; an EPA roundtable session on Regulatory Assessment/Feedback; plus others; and (2) TRACKS that provide focus to gain greater depth in a particular area. Invitations and registration information will be disseminated SOON. Be sure to put these dates – **June 25 - June 27, 2002** – on your calendar.

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potentially divisive issue, problems abound, and organizational partnerships in this region are being tested. And that is why Brian's story is a good reminder for all of us.

Here in the South, the military has always been an important part of our culture...it is who we are. Communities relate to the military in war and peace, and great efforts are undertaken so that competing interests can be appropriately accommodated — a significant factor in why the South houses so many military bases. Regulatory agencies in this region reflect that same cooperative attitude. While there are tough challenges for the regulatory agencies and the military, the focus generally remains on good environmental stewardship along with military readiness — working together to find the right balance. As a result, this region has fostered more DOD and regulatory agency partnerships than anywhere. These partnerships — ranging from clean-up to pollution prevention to natural resources — promote real world solutions with their building block being “trust.” As studies show, without trust, things quickly fall apart; with trust, comes shared goals and real progress.

Several months ago, my wife and I joined a small group, and one of the members gave each of us a small rock to carry around in our pocket. It has an emblem inscribed that serves as a reminder to keep things in balance: mentally, physically, and spiritually. Since 9/11, that rock takes on special significance. After all, it is always the hard times that tests relationships and values. As far as our environment and our military in this region, we have survived many threats; together, we will survive many more. I also know that when I pull that rock out of my pocket, I will think of Brian and his courage to make life better for others. When times seem the toughest, we always pull together as a great nation with a strong military, an enriched environment, and free people. That's what really sets us apart...it is who we are.



George A. Carellas
Department of Defense
Regional Environmental Coordinator

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR

Department of the Army
Army Environmental Center
Southern Regional Environmental Office
Attn: SFIM-AEC-SR
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 3120
Atlanta, GA 30303-2711

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